

# RAN

In the days of old the birds lived at *random* in a lawless state of anarchy; but in time they moved for the setting up of a king. *L'Estrange's Fables.*  
Who could govern the dependance of one event upon another, if that event happened at *random*, and was not cast into a certain relation to some foregoing purpose to direct. *South.*  
'Tis one thing when a person of true merit is drawn as like as we can; and another, when we make a fine thing at *random*, and persuade the next vain creature that 'tis his own likeness. *Pope.*  
**RAN'DOM.** *adj.* Done by chance; roving without direction. Virtue borrow'd but the arms of chance, And struck a *random* blow! 'twas fortune's work, And fortune take the praise. *Dryden.*  
**RAN'FORCE.** *n. f.* The ring of a gun next the touch-hole. *Baileys.*  
**RANG.** *prerite of ring.* Complaints were sent continually up to Rome, and rang all over the empire. *Crew's Casmal.*  
**TO RANGE.** *v. a.* [*ranger*, Fr. *rhenge*, Welsh.]  
1. To place in order; to put in ranks. Maccabeus rang'd his army by bands, and went against Timotheus. *2 Mac. xii. 20.*  
He saw not the marquis till the battle was rang'd. *Clarend.*  
Somewhat rais'd  
By false presumptuous hope, the rang'd pow'rs  
Disband, and wand'ring each his several way  
Pursues. *Milton.*  
Men, from the qualities they find united in them, and wherein they observe several individuals to agree, range them into forts for the convenience of comprehensive signs. *Lacke.*  
A certain form and order, in which we have long accustomed ourselves to range our ideas, may be best for us now, though not originally best in itself. *Watts.*  
2. To rove over.  
To the copse thy lesser spaniel take,  
Teach him to range the ditch and force the brake. *Gay.*  
**TO RANGE.** *v. n.*  
1. To rove at large.  
Caesar's spirit ranging for revenge,  
With Ate by his side come hot from hell,  
Shall in these confines, with a monarch's voice,  
Cry havoc, and let slip the dogs of war. *Shakefp.*  
'Tis better to be lowly born,  
And range with humble livers in content,  
Than to be perk'd up in a glistering grief,  
And wear a golden sorrow. *Shakefp. Henry VIII.*  
I saw him in the battle range about;  
And watch'd him, how he singled Clifford forth. *Shakefp.*  
As a roaring lion and a ranging bear; so is a wicked ruler over the poor people. *Prov. xxviii. 15.*  
Other animals unactive range,  
And of their doings God takes no account. *Milton.*  
Thanks to my stars, I have not rang'd about  
The wilds of life, ere I could find a friend. *Addison.*  
2. To be placed in order.  
That is the way to lay the city flat,  
To bring the roof to the foundation,  
And bury all which yet distinctly ranges  
In heaps of ruin. *Shakefp. Coriolanus.*  
**RANGE.** *n. f.* [*range*, Fr. from the verb.]  
1. A rank; any thing placed in a line.  
You fled  
From that great face of war, whose several ranges  
Frighted each other. *Shakefp. Antony and Cleopatra.*  
The light, which passed through its several interstices,  
Painted so many ranges of colours, which were parallel and contiguous, and without any mixture of white. *Newton.*  
From this walk you have a full view of a huge range of mountains, that lie in the country of the Grisons. *Addison.*  
These ranges of barren mountains, by condensing the vapours and producing rains, fountains and rivers, give the very plains that fertility they boast of. *Bentley's Sermons.*  
2. A class; an order.  
The next range of beings above him are the immaterial intelligences, the next below him is the sensible nature. *Hale.*  
3. Excursion; wandering.  
He may take a range all the world over, and draw in all that wide circumference of sin and vice, and center it in his own breast. *South's Sermons.*  
4. Room for excursion.  
A man has not enough range of thought, to look out for any good which does not relate to his own interest. *Addison.*  
5. Compass taken in by any thing excursive, extended, or ranked in order.  
Far as creation's ample range extends,  
The scale of sensual mental pow'rs ascends. *Pope.*  
Judge we by nature? habit can efface;  
Affections? they still take a wider range. *Pope.*  
6. Step of a ladder.  
The liturgy, practised in England, would kindle that jealousy, as the prologue to that design, and as the first range of that ladder, which should serve to mount over all their customs. *Clarendon.*

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7. A kitchen grate.  
Its door forth right to him did open,  
Therein an hundred ranges were pight,  
And hundred furnaces all burning bright. *Fairy Queen.*  
It was a vault ybuilt for great dispende,  
With many ranges rear'd along the wall,  
And one great chimney. *Fairy Queen.*  
The buttery must be visible, and we need for our ranges,  
a more spacious and luminous kitchen. *Wotton's Architect.*  
The implements of the kitchen are spits, ranges, coblons and pots. *Bacon's Physical Remains.*  
He was bid at his first coming to take off the ranges, and let down the cinders. *L'Estrange.*  
**RANGER.** *n. f.* [*from range*.]  
1. One that ranges; a rover; a robber.  
They walk not wicly, as they were wont,  
For fear of *rangers* and the great hoot,  
But privily pralling to and fro. *Spenser's Poetical.*  
Come, says the *ranger*, here's neither honour nor money to be got by staying. *L'Estrange.*  
2. A dog that beats the ground.  
Let your obsequious *ranger* search around,  
Nor will the roving spy direct in vain,  
But numerous coveys gratify thy pain. *Gay's Rural Sports.*  
3. An officer who tends the game of a forest.  
Their father Tyrreus did his fodder bring,  
Tyrreus chief *ranger* to the Latian king. *Dryden.*  
**RANK.** *adj.* [*rank*, Saxon.]  
1. High growing; strong; luxuriant.  
Down with the grass,  
That groweth in shadow so *rank* and so stout. *Tupper.*  
Is not thilk same goatehead proud,  
That fits in yonder bank,  
Whose straying heard themselves shrowde  
Emong the bushes *rank*. *Spenser.*  
Who would be out, being before his beloved mistress?  
—That should you, if I were your mistress, or I should think my honesty *rank* than my wit. *Shakefp.*  
In which disguise,  
While other jests are something *rank* on foot,  
Her father hath commanded her to slip  
Away with Slender. *Shakefp. Merry Wives of Windsor.*  
Seven ears came up upon one stalk, *rank* and good. *Gen.*  
They fancy that the difference lies in the manner of applique, one being made by a fuller or *ranker* applique than the other. *Holder's Elements of Speech.*  
The most plentiful season, that gives birth to the finest flowers, produces also the *rankest* weeds. *Addison.*  
2. Fruitful; bearing strong plants.  
Seven thousand broad-tail'd sheep graz'd on his downs;  
Three thousand camels his *rank* pastures fed. *Sandys.*  
Where land is *rank*, 'tis not good to sow wheat after a fallow. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*  
3. [*Rancidus*, Lat.] Strong scented; rancid.  
*Rank* smelling rue, and cummin good for eyes. *Spenser.*  
In their thick breaths,  
*Rank* of gross diet, shall we be enclouded,  
And forc'd to drink their vapour. *Shakefp. Cymbeline.*  
The ewes, being *rank*,  
In the end of Autumn turned to the rams. *Shakefp.*  
The drying marshes such a stench convey,  
Such the *rank* steams of reeking Albula. *Addison.*  
Hircina, *rank* with sweat, perfumes  
To censure Phillis for perfumes. *Swift's Miscellanies.*  
4. High tailed; strong in quality.  
Such animals as feed upon flesh, because such kind of food is high and *rank*, qualify it; the one by swallowing the hair of the beasts they prey upon, the other by devouring some part of the feathers of the birds they gorge themselves with. *Ray on the Creation.*  
Divers sea fowl taste *rank* of the fish on which they feed. *Boyl.*  
5. Rampant; highgrown.  
For you, most wicked Sir, whom to call brother  
Would infect my mouth, I do forgive  
Thy *rankest* faults. *Shakefp. Temp.*  
This Epiphanius cries out upon as *rank* idolatry, and the device of the devil, who always brought in idolatry under fair pretences. *Stillington's Def. of Discourses on Roman Idol.*  
'Tis pride, *rank* pride, and haughtiness of soul,  
The Romans call it itoicism. *Addison's Cato.*  
6. Gross; coarse.  
My wife's a hobby-horse, deserves name  
As *rank* as any flax-wench, that puts to  
Before her troth-plight. *Shakefp. Winter's Tale.*  
This power of the people in Athens, claimed as the undoubted privilege of an Athenian born, was the *rankest* encroachment and the grossest degeneracy from the law Solon left. *Swift.*  
7. The iron of a plane is set *rank*, when its edge stands so flat below the sole of the plane, that in working it will take off a thick shaving. *Mason's Mechanical Exercises.*  
**RANK.**

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**RANK.** *n. f.* [*rang*, Fr.]  
1. Line of men placed a-breast.  
Fierce fiery warriors fight upon the clouds,  
In ranks, and squadrons, and right form of war,  
Which drizzled blood upon the capitol. *Shakefp.*  
I have seen the cannon,  
When it hath blown his ranks into the air. *Shakefp.*  
Is't not pity,  
That we, the sons and children of this isle,  
Fill up her enemies ranks? *Shakefp. King John.*  
If you have a station in the file,  
And not in the worst rank of manhood, say it. *Shakefp.*  
2. A row.  
West of this place down in the neighbour bottom,  
The *rank* of officers, by the murmuring stream,  
Left on your right hand brings you to the place. *Shakefp.*  
A sylvan scene, and as the *rank* ascend  
Shade above shade, a woody theatre. *Milton.*  
If the walk, in even *rank*s they stand,  
Like some well-marshall'd and obsequious band. *Waller.*  
He could through ranks of ruin go,  
With storms above and rocks below. *Dryden's Horace.*  
3. Range of subordination.  
The wisdom and goodness of the maker plainly appears in the parts of this stupendous fabrick, and the several degrees and ranks of creatures in it. *Lacke.*  
4. Class; order.  
The enchanting power of prosperity over private persons is remarkable in relation to great kingdoms, where all ranks and orders of men, being equally concerned in publick blessings, equally join in spreading the infection. *Atterbury.*  
5. Degree of dignity.  
Her charms have made me man, her ravish'd love  
In *rank* shall place me with the blest above. *Dryden.*  
These all are virtues of a meaner *rank*,  
Perfections that are plac'd in bones and nerves. *Addison.*  
Lepidus's house, which in his consulate was the finest in Rome, within thirty-five years was not in the hundredth rank. *Arbutnot on Coins.*  
6. Dignity; high place; as, he is a man of rank.  
**TO RANK.** *v. a.* [*ranger*, Fr. from the noun.]  
1. To place a-breast.  
In view stood *rank'd* of seraphim another row. *Milton.*  
2. To range in any particular class.  
If four ewe delights in fellow ship,  
And needly will be *rank'd* with other griefs;  
Why follow'd not, when she said Tybalt's dead,  
Thy father or thy mother. *Shakefp.*  
He was a man  
Of an unbounded stomach, ever *ranking*  
Himself with princes. *Shakefp. Henry VIII.*  
Hereby is *ranked* with idolatry and witchcraft. *Decay of Piety.*  
I have *ranked* this diversion of christian practice among the effects of our contentions. *Decay of Piety.*  
Poets were *ranked* in the class of philosophers, and the ancients made use of them as preceptors in music and morality. *Broom's Notes on the Odyssey.*  
3. To arrange methodically.  
Who now shall rear you to the sun, or *rank*  
Your tribes. *Milton.*  
*Ranking* all things under general and special heads, renders the nature or uses of a thing more easy to be found out, when we seek in what rank of beings it lies. *Watts's Logic.*  
**TO RANKLE.** *v. n.* [*from rank*.]  
1. To be ranged; to be placed.  
Let that one article *rank* with the rest;  
And thereupon give me your daughter. *Shakefp.*  
From straggling mountaineers, for publick good,  
To *rank* in tribes, and quit the savage wood. *Tate.*  
2. To be inflamed in body or mind.  
As when two boars with *rankling* malice met,  
Their gory sides fresh bleeding fiercely fret. *Fa. Queen.*  
I little smart did feel;  
But soon it fore increased,  
And now it *rankleth* more and more,  
And inwardly it festereth fore. *Spenser's Pastorals.*  
The grief thereof him wondrous sore diseased,  
Ne might his *rankling* pain with patience be appeased. *Fairy Queen.*  
That fresh bleeding wound  
Whilome doth *rankle* in my riven breast. *Fairy Queen.*  
Beware of yonder dog;  
Look, when he fawns, he bites; and, when he bites,  
His venom tooth will *rankle* to the death.  
The storm of his own rage the fool confounds,  
And envy's *rankling* sting th' imprudent wounds.  
Thou shalt feel, enrag'd with inward pains,  
The hydra's venom *rankling* in thy veins. *Addison.*  
I have endur'd the rage of secret grief,  
A malady that burns and *rankleth* inward.  
On the *rank'd* soul the fury falls. *Rowe.*  
**RANKLE.**

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**RANKLY.** *adv.* [*from rank*.] Coarsely; grossly.  
'Tis given out, that, sleeping in my garden,  
A serpent stung me: so the whole ear of Denmark  
Is, by a forged process of my death,  
Rankly abus'd. *Shakefp. Hamlet.*  
**RANKNESS.** *n. f.* [*from rank*.] Exuberance; superfluity of growth.  
It bringeth forth abundantly, through too much *rankness*,  
things less profitable, whereby that which principally it should yield, being either prevented in place, or defrauded of nourishment, faileth. *Haker, b. v. f. iii.*  
Begin you to grow upon me; I will phylick your *rankness*. *Shakefp. As You Like it.*  
Among the crowd i' th' abbey, where a finger  
Could not be wedg'd in more; I am stifled  
With the mere *rankness* of their joy. *Shakefp. Hen. VIII.*  
We'll like a bated and retired flood,  
Leaving our *rankness* and irregular course,  
Stoop low within those bounds, we have o'erlook'd. *Shak.*  
The crane's pride is in the *rankness* of her wing. *L'Estr.*  
He the stubborn soil manur'd,  
With rules of husbandry the *rankness* cur'd;  
Tam'd us to manners. *Dryden.*  
**RANNY.** *n. f.* The shrewmouse.  
The mus araneus, the shrewmouse or *ranny*. *Brown.*  
**TO RAN'SACK.** *v. a.* [*ran*, Saxon, and *saka*, Swedish, to search for or seize.]  
1. To plunder; to pillage.  
A covetous spirit,  
Warily awaited day and night,  
From other covetous fiends it to defend,  
Who it to rob and *ranjack* did intend. *Fairy Queen.*  
Their vow is made to *ranjack* Troy. *Shakefp.*  
Men by his suggestion taught,  
*Ranjack'd* the centre, and with impious hands  
Rifled the bowels of the earth.  
The *ranjack'd* city, taken by our toils,  
We left, and hither brought the golden spoils. *Dryden.*  
The spoils which they from *ranjack'd* houses brought,  
And golden bowls from burning altars caught. *Dryden.*  
2. To search narrowly.  
I *ranjack* the several caverns, and search into the store-houses of water, to find out where that mighty mass of water, which overflowed the earth, is bestowed. *Woodward.*  
3. To violate; to deflower.  
With greedy force he 'gan the fort assail,  
Wherof he weened possessed soon to be,  
And with rich spoil of *ranjack'd* chastity. *Fairy Queen.*  
**RAN'SOME.** *n. f.* [*ransom*, Fr.] Price paid for redemption from captivity or punishment.  
By his captivity in Austria, and the heavy *ransom* that he paid for his liberty, Richard was hindered to pursue the conquest of Ireland. *Davies on Ireland.*  
Ere the third dawning light  
Return, the stars of morn shall see him rise,  
The *ransom* paid, which man from death redeemes,  
His death for man. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. xii.*  
Has the prince lost his army or his liberty?  
Tell me what province they demand for *ransom*. *Denham.*  
This as a *ransom* Albemarle did pay,  
For all the glories of so great a life. *Dryden.*  
To adore that great mystery of divine love, God's sending his only son into this world to save sinners, and to give his life a *ransom* for them, would be noble exercise for the pens of the greatest wits. *Tillotson's Sermons.*  
Th' avenging pow'r  
Thus will persist, relentless in his ire,  
Till the fair slave be render'd to her fire,  
And *ransom* free restor'd to his abode. *Dryden.*  
**TO RAN'SOME.** *v. a.* [*ransommer*, Fr.] To redeem from captivity or punishment.  
How is't with Titus Lartius?  
—Condemning some to death and some to exile,  
*Ransoming* him, or pitying, threatening the other. *Shakefp.*  
I will *ransom* them from the grave, and redeem them from death. *Hosea xiii. 14.*  
He'll dying rise, and rising with him raise  
His brethren, *ransom'd* with his own dear life. *Milton.*  
**RAN'SOMELESS.** *adj.* [*from ransom*.] Free from ransom.  
*Ransomeless* here we set our prisoners free. *Shakefp.*  
Deliver him  
Up to his pleasure *ransomeless* and free. *Shakefp.*  
**TO RANT.** *v. n.* [*randen*, Dutch, to rave.] To rave in violent or high sounding language without proportionable dignity of thought.  
Look where my *ranting* host of the garter comes; there is either liquor in his pate, or money in his purse, when he looks so merrily. *Shakefp. Merry Wives of Windsor.*  
Nay, an thou't mouth, I'll *rant* as well as thou. *Shak.*  
They have attacked me; some with piteous moans, others grinning and only shewing their teeth, others *ranting* and hectoring, others scolding and reviling. *Stillington's.*  
**RANT.**